



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

- Helicopter Training at Cottage Hospital -

SANTA BARBARA, Ca. January 11, 2012 – The Santa Barbara County Fire Department (SBC FD) in conjunction with Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital, conducted a helicopter training exercise at the hospital's new helipad.



David Sadecki photos

SBC FD helicopter 308 made two helipad landings at the new hospital facility located on Bath Street in Santa Barbara. Specific flight patterns, communications, and the hospital helipad filtering system were tested. SBC FD personnel also discussed procedures for patient transfer from the helicopter to the hospital staff. The staff was also briefed on the helicopter and flight crew capabilities.

The addition of the new helipad eliminates the need to transfer a patient from a nearby junior high school or the Santa Barbara Airport, providing timelier service to the patient. The Cottage Hospital helipad is planned to be fully operational in mid-February.



The SBC FD helicopter delivers rescue and medevac advanced life support service to the citizens of Santa Barbara County. The helicopter flies with trained firefighter / paramedics that provide ocean rescue, swift water rescue, cliff rescue, and mountain rescue. The helicopter is equipped with a rescue hoist and has night vision goggles for 24 hour service.

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